United Nations S/2015/696

Security Council

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Letter dated 9 September 2015 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

In view of the deliberations by the members of the Security Council with regard to my letter of 27 August 2015 (S/2015/669) conveying my recommendations and elements of the terms of reference for an Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons-United Nations Joint Investigative Mechanism, pursuant to Security Council resolution 2235 (2015), I wish to reaffirm the following:

One of the steps to be taken will be to expeditiously consult with the Syrian Arab Republic regarding a status of mission agreement, which is necessary for the proper implementation of the mandated activities of the Joint Investigative Mechanism under resolution 2235 (2015) in the Syrian Arab Republic, including with respect to privileges, immunities and security.

The Joint Investigative Mechanism shall take due care in making its determinations regarding whether there are reasonable grounds to believe that access is justified in accordance with paragraphs 5 and 7 of resolution 2235 (2015), which also provide that the Syrian Arab Republic and all parties shall provide full access to all locations, individuals and materials in the Syrian Arab Republic that the Mechanism deems relevant to its investigation.

The trust fund to be established in support of the activities of the Joint Investigative Mechanism shall be administered in accordance with the administrative and financial regulations of the United Nations. Voluntary contributions to the trust fund will be used for the material and technical needs of the Mechanism.

I should be grateful if you would bring the present letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

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